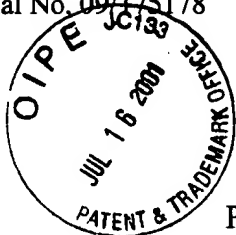


Serial No. 09/175178



IN THE UNITED STATES
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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JUL 19 2001

Group 2100

Patent Application

Inventors Sarvar Patel
Zulfikar Amin Ramzan

Case 13-1

Serial No. 09/175178 Group Art Unit 2132

Filing Date October 20, 1998

Examiner G. Newton

Title Efficient Hashing Method

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20231

SIR:

AMENDMENT

In response to the Office action of March 22, 2001, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Replace the title with the following: EFFICIENT UNIVERSAL HASHING METHOD.

Replace the paragraph on page 1, lines 23-26 with the following:

a'
The number of bits contained in the longer unhashed string is "n". The number of bits in the shorter or hashed string is "l". A hashing function that satisfies Equation (1) is often referred to as ϵ universal.